

## CLAIMS

1. A transportation system for allowing a vehicle to run between stations on a track, the transportation system comprising an acceleration zone for  
5 accelerating the vehicle by propulsion supply means provided in the vicinity of the station, and an autonomous traveling zone for allowing the vehicle accelerated in said acceleration zone to travel on the track in an autonomous manner without said propulsion supply means.

10

2. The transportation system as set forth in claim 1, said propulsion supply means is a linear-type accelerator for accelerating the vehicle by providing a propulsion force from a first magnet located on the track to a second magnet mounted on the vehicle.

15

3. The transportation system as set forth in claim 1, wherein said propulsion supply means is a coaster-type accelerator comprising an auxiliary track formed at an uphill gradient in the vicinity of the station, and a lifter for lifting  
20 the vehicle on said auxiliary track, which is provided such that when the vehicle lifted on said auxiliary track is released, it is accelerated by gravitation.

25

4. The transportation system as set forth in claim 1, wherein said propulsion supply means provided in the vicinity of one of the stations is a linear-type accelerator for accelerating the vehicle by providing a propulsion force from a first magnet located on the track to a second magnet mounted on the vehicle, and said propulsion supply means provided in the vicinity of the other station is a coaster-type accelerator comprising an auxiliary track formed at an uphill

gradient in the vicinity of the station, and a lifter for lifting the vehicle on said auxiliary track, which is provided such that when the vehicle lifted on said auxiliary track is released, it is accelerated by gravitation.

5

5. The transportation system as set forth in claim 1, further comprising a gravity detector for detecting a direction of gravity applied to a seat disposed in the vehicle, and a seat posture controller for controlling a posture of said seat relative to a floor of the vehicle in accordance with an output of said gravity detector.

10

6. The transportation system as set forth in claim 1, wherein the vehicle has a flat floor designed in a barrier free manner.

15

7. A transportation system having a rail extending between stations, and a vehicle movable on said rail and carrying drive means, the transportation system comprising a first zone for accelerating the vehicle from a stopped condition to a required speed by a propulsion force supplied from propulsion supply means located from one of the stations toward the other station by a predetermined distance, and a second zone not having said propulsion supply means, in which the vehicle accelerated in the first zone travels on said rail by a propulsion force supplied from said drive means.

20  
25

8. The transportation system as set forth in claim 7, wherein said propulsion supply means is a linear-type accelerator for accelerating the vehicle by the propulsion force provided from a fixed magnet located along said rail to a

movable magnet mounted on the vehicle, and said drive means comprises a wheel driven by a motor mounted on the vehicle, and an auxiliary rail formed in said second zone in parallel with said rail such that said wheel travels thereon.